

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR (Estonian SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Fishing Kolkhozy in the Estonian SSR 2. Kihnu Island Fishing Kolkhoz	DATE DISTR.	30 November 1955
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1. Kolkhoz fishing grounds and areas for stationary nets are determined by the combined action of the following bodies:
 - a. Fishery Protection Inspectorate.
 - b. Representatives of the Central Association of Fishing Kolkhozy.
 - c. Representatives of the Motor Fishing Stations.
 - d. Representatives of the Fishing Cooperatives.
2. The Kihnu Island (N 58-07, E 24-00) fishing kolkhoz, called Nõukogude Partisaan, comprises ten fishing brigades and three agricultural brigades. Not all fishing kolkhozy have agricultural brigades, however. Both at Kihnu and Ruhnu Island (N 57-48, E 23-13) there are also special seal-fishing groups.
3. Four types of boat are in general use in the Estonian fishing kolkhozy:
 - a. Transport vessels of ten to 12 tons with 14 to 24 hp.
 - b. Fishing boats approximately 25 meters long of about five tons with 14 hp.
 - c. Rowing and sailing boats for shore fishing up to two tons.
 - d. Trawlers usually of more than 20 tons with about 60 hp. These trawlers belong to the Motor Fishing Stations. The larger types are equipped with radio. Radar is not in use.
4. The Kihnu Island fishing kolkhoz operates 15 transport vessels, 25 rowing and sailing boats for shore fishing, and one 20-ton trawler of the MIKOYAN type powered by a diesel engine of about 60 hp. None of the boats is equipped with radio or radar.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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-2-

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6. Each kolkhoz has a fuel store in charge of a storekeeper who applies directly to the Motor Fishing Station for supplies. Brigadiers obtain kerosene as it is needed for their boats by application to the local storekeeper. At Kihnu, there are four tanks for kerosene, holding a total of 60 tons, and another four tanks of unspecified capacity for diesel oil.
7. Boat crews are not issued maps or charts. At Kihnu, however, the chairman of the kolkhoz has some charts in his office which the brigadiers may consult. Compasses were not issued to the Kihnu kolkhoz until 1954, allegedly because, in earlier years, the fishermen had broken compasses open to drink the alcohol they contained.
8. Permission to use boats for pleasure trips can be obtained from the Motor Fishing Station to which the boats belong. Since the procedure is lengthy and permission is not always granted, **boats are seldom used**. Boats are sometimes used for pleasure trips, however, by arrangement with the brigadier, who is responsible for the boats in his brigade.
9. Seal-fishing groups are issued army carbines. At Kihnu, there are ten of these carbines, which are in the custody of the chairman of the kolkhoz and are issued with ammunition when needed. Used cartridge cases must be returned.
10. Persons wishing to join a fishing kolkhoz are required to make written application to the chairman of the kolkhoz, who then brings the application before the General Assembly of Kolkhozy. Two-thirds of the votes are necessary for acceptance or rejection. The applicant is required also to complete in detail a personal history form and to present the usual personal documents. The new member must contribute to the kolkhoz fund a specific sum comprising 40 percent cash and 60 percent payment in kind (nets and other equipment). In the Kihnu Island kolkhoz, the total payment amounts to 100 rubles, but it may be more at other kolkhozy. Fishermen usually do not transfer from one boat to another, but such transfer is possible within the brigade.
11. The average yearly income of a kolkhoz fishermen is about 14,000 rubles, which is exempt from State taxes. Purchase of State bonds is compulsory, however. Crew members earn from 22,000 to 26,000 rubles per year at Kihnu, which is considered the best fishing kolkhoz in the Estonian SSR. Brigadiers receive wages plus a bonus. The three best annual earnings on Kihnu are 28,000, 32,000, and 34,000 rubles, respectively.
12. An agricultural kolkhoznik in a fishing kolkhoz is paid 560 rubles per year and receives 200 kg of wheat in addition. He is allowed .6 of a hectare of land and may keep one cow and several sheep and chickens.
13. If a norm is not achieved, the brigade concerned is required to pay to the Fishing Industry of the Union of Cooperatives a sum amounting to three percent of the discrepancy. Norms are almost always exceeded, however, in which case, the brigades concerned receive 85 percent of the proceeds from the excess in addition to the 60 percent normally received from sales.
14. Fishing catches are taken to Purchasing Points, where the proceeds of the sale are distributed in the following manner:
 - a. 60 percent to the fishermen.
 - b. 25 percent to the Motor Fishing Station.
 - c. Four percent to the Central Association of Fishing Kolkhozy.
 - d. Two percent to the kolkhoz fund.

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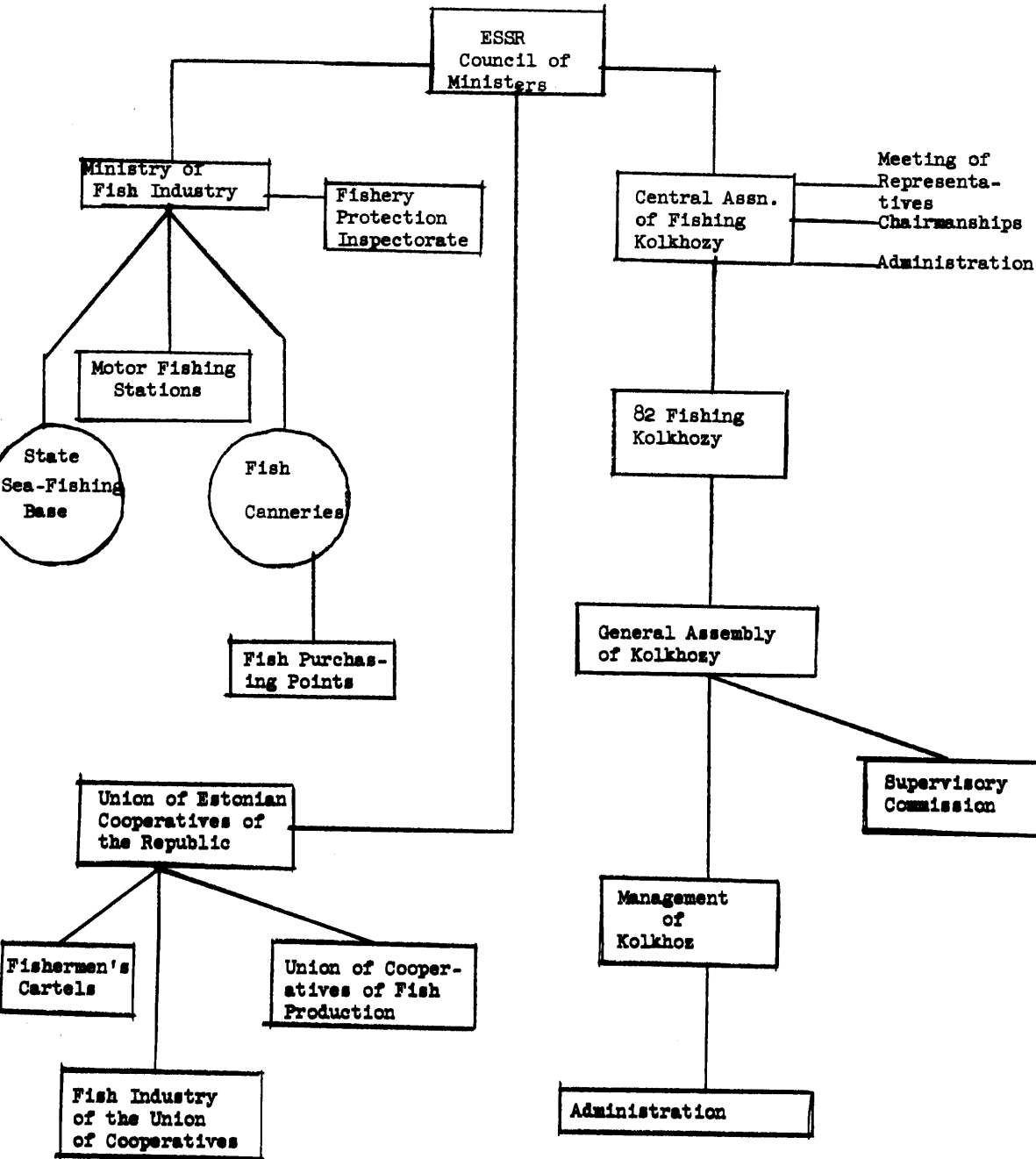
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-4-

Diagram of the Structure of the
Fishing Industry in Estonia



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S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

-3-

e. Two percent to the cultural funds.

f. Seven percent to the kolkhoz.

15. The following is a list of prices paid for fish at the Purchasing Point and on the retail market.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price per Kilo in Rubles</u>		
	<u>At the Purchasing Point</u>	<u>Received by Fisherman</u>	<u>Retail</u>
Pilchards	.8	.48	5 to 6
Pike	2.	1.2	4.5 to 5
Eels	6.	3.6	24
Smoked eels	--	--	30 to 38
Whitefish	3.	1.8	16 to 18 (salted)
Salmon and sea trout	10.	6.	40
Perch	1.5	.90	3 to 4

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